## Albinger Archaeological Museum is open & free on summer weekends, starting June 18

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## Albinger Archaeological Museum is open & free on summer weekends with new "Music at the Missions" exhibit from June 18 to September 4

The Albinger Archaeological Museum, located at 113 Main Street in Ventura, will reopen its doors to the public on weekends this summer from June 18 through September 4, on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 4 pm. Admission to the museum is free all summer long.

A new exhibit called "Music at the Missions" will celebrate the museum's reopening with central display cases of historic instruments from the Museum of Ventura County collection – flutes, an accordion, violin and a Jew's harp used by Native American Chumash orchestras and later ensembles. Interpretive panels cover the history of the guitar in California, music preservationist Jose de la Rosa and instrument making and performances by Mission Chumash orchestras.

Named after Ventura Mayor Albert R. Albinger, the museum is built on the home site of saloonkeeper and early mayor Angel Escondon and displays artifacts spanning 3,500 years of Ventura history encompassing five different cultures (Chumash, Spanish, Mexican, Chinese and circa 1850 U.S.) from a single archaeological site next to San Buenaventura Mission.

Displays of stone bowls, a tomol (plank canoe reproduction), shell beads, arrowheads, bone whistles, crucifixes, bottles, buttons and pottery inside the exhibit building are complimented outside by excavations of the foundations of the lost Mission church, Native American barracks, well and the oldest standing structure in Ventura, the mission water filtration building.

For more information, contact Historic Sites Coordinator Gina Reyes at 805/658-4728 or greyes@cityofventura.net; or Office of Cultural Affairs Supervisor Georgeanne Lees at <a href="mailto:glees@cityofventura.net">glees@cityofventura.net</a> or 805/658-4720.

This release is available on the City of Ventura website <a href="www.cityofventura.net">www.cityofventura.net</a>. ###